

The Observer

opinion news features sports stuff

News Briefs

Kairos

The fall Kairos retreat was held on the weekend of December 4th through the 7th.

Alcohol Policy Review

The Alcohol Policy is one of the elements of the student handbook currently under review by the Student Life Committee. Student representatives on that committee are Bob Dusek, Mike Nichols and Danielle Adams.

GCS Christmas Party

The annual Gallagher Charitable Society Christmas Party was held December 6 in the Halleck center ballroom. Lunch was served and gifts were distributed to area families. The Junior Class as well as other area organizations donated funds for the party.

Happenings

Christmas Concert
The college wind ensemble will be performing on Sunday December 14 at 2:00pm in the ballroom.

Acme Improv

Acme Improv will be held in the ballroom at 7:00 pm on Sunday December 14.

Christmas Dance

The dance will be on Saturday December 13 from 9 pm to 1 am. Tickets are available in advance and at the door.

All Campus Christmas Celebration Planned

by Patrick Guyette

This year's All Campus Christmas will have a variety of things to do to suit almost everyone's needs and desires. There will be activities that range from liturgical ceremonies to a special Christmas dinner offered by the Saint Joseph's cafeteria cooking staff. The All Campus Christmas is being coordinated by a small group of 10 students who are volunteering their time and effort to make sure that this year's Christmas holiday is a memorable one for all Saint Joseph's students.

This year, the Church ministry will celebrate its worship with "free church elements" on Thursday, De-

cember 11 at 8:00 pm in the Chapel. Many Christian denominations will participate in this service to incorporate all Christians during this advent season. Also, the Church Ministry will offer another service, a Catholic Mass, on Monday, December 15th. During the liturgical ceremonies, the Saint Joseph's choir will be singing Christmas songs. There will also be a brass ensemble that will play during the services.

Coinciding with the liturgical services in the church, the Saint Joseph's Cafeteria staff will be featuring their annual Christmas Holiday dinner. The meal features a slice of beef surrounded by a smorgasbord of vegetables



photo by Jenny Palecek

The Saint Joseph's Christmas Tree decorates Halleck Center for the Holiday Season.

and other foods. During this holiday meal, there will be a raffle for a Marriott Teddy Bear, and their annual Christmas/Exam study packs will be passed out. There will also be free coffee served in the HUB dur-

ing finals week.

This year's All Campus Christmas is intended to please all of the Saint Joseph's community. With all of the variety that is offered, this Christmas season should be a memorable one at Saint Joseph's College.

Student Association and Student Senate Elections Held

by William Shannon

Speeches, campaign posters and talk of pressing student life issues now tinge the air at Saint Joseph's College. This tells anyone who cares to doubt it that it is again election season, the time having come once again to elect officers to the Student Association.

The electioneering was kicked off by a debate that was held between the candidates for the seat of Student Association President. This debate, held

in the Shen Auditorium, allowed questions to be brought to the candidates. Through these questions, the candidate's stand on the issues could be made known. This debate was also televised several times, so that more would have access to the candidates and their respective platforms.

The elections themselves were held on Tuesday, December 9 and Wednesday, December 10. Voting was done in front of the Cafeteria at meal

times and on-line in any of the computer labs. The online voting is a recently implemented attempt to get more students to vote. This option has made it easier to tally the votes electronically.

Elections will also be held for the positions of governor and senators in each of the individual dorms.

Voting is the one chance a year to "strike a blow" for important issues by electing the best people to lead the Saint Joseph's College student body.

Christmas Tree Lighting Takes Place

by Becky Johnson

On December 3rd, the celebration of the tree lighting took place. Some of the gatherers at this ceremony were Vice President for Student Affairs Bill Manis, Fr. Tim McFarland, Fr. Jim Challancin, senior Jen Palecek and junior Amy Black. "The tree lighting is a celebration. It is a time for Pumas to meet and talk about Christmas, along with other things," stated Black. The

festivity included seasonal cookies and drinks such as apple cider, hot chocolate and egg nog, along with a friendly atmosphere to celebrate the Christmas tradition.

The lighted tree is located in Halleck Center directly at the top of the stairs. The Christmas tree represents the true pride of Saint Joseph's with its festive purple and burgundy bulbs and lights.

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*Cheers to hot chocolate

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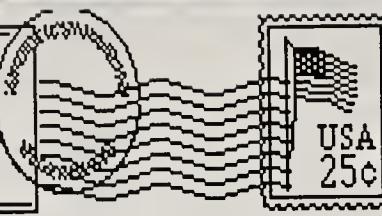
*Cheers to holiday shopping

*Cheers to *Carpe Diem!*

*Cheers to Secret Santas

*Cheers to Christmas Caroling

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor:

Please allow me to vent about some of the concerns I have with Saint Joseph's College. I have talked to several people about my concerns, but nobody seems to care.

Let's talk security. A security service is supposed to mirror a community police service. Thus, security should have a dual purpose--to serve and protect. Don't we have the right to feel safe during the daytime as well as the nighttime? After all, it is during the day when the students are most vulnerable. Where is security during the day? Do students feel they are helped by security when they are asked? Does security take a proactive or reactive view of helping students? So, who says security is not needed during the day to help students? There's an old joke, "You'll always find the police at a doughnut shop." Where does our security hang out? (The closest Dunkin Donuts that I am aware of is Lafayette.)

So, do we need more people to service the college? Is security doing their job making the college safe, or are they trying to make revenue for the college by writ-

ing tickets?

Are records kept for incidents such as tickets, thefts, etc.? If so, are they available for public review without a lawyer? Students need to be more aware of incidents on campus. Why? Well, it's been proven that the more educated people are to these incidents, the more precaution they take. A prime example of this is the neighborhood watch.

The college is suffering from poor communication. One example: In the 1997 Student Handbook, the car registration fee is \$10, but recently I was billed \$25 with no explanation why. Why isn't the college taking a proactive view in communicating with the students using radio, television, etc.? Or, are they just afraid to talk to us? "Meet the Press" puts politicians in the spotlight, why doesn't the college board present its changes in the same fashion? A side note: Did you know that an average person needs to be told something 7 times before they comprehend!?

Respectfully,
Joseph H. Vorrier III

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Letters to the Editor:
Letters must be between 350-500 words. They must be signed and include a telephone number. If the author of the letter does not want his/her name used, include pseudonym to be printed. The Editorial Board can elect not to print a letter that conflicts with or violates the newspaper's Editorial Policy or College Doctrine. Editors reserve the right to edit letters to length. Letters can be mailed to DeAnn Hazzard or dropped off in our mail box in the Core Building.

*Jeers to all the computer labs being closed on Saturday

*Jeers to the flu that's going around

*Jeers to the horrible weather

*Jeers to lack of sleep

*Jeers to finals

*Jeers to the cable outage

*Jeers to bad karma

Coffee House to Open on Campus

by Natalie Berenda

So your roommate kicked you out for a couple hours due to 'company'. You don't feel like hitting the library, and you don't feel like hanging out in your buddies' rooms. You just need a place to unwind, so you decide to visit the Coffee Shop in the south chapel basement. This visitation is made possible by Senior Bill Bell.

Bell wanted to work on a project so he decided to establish a place where students could go to relax. After discussing his idea with Bob Shaut, Bill Manis, and Steve Santo, Bell was given the go ahead to start a coffee shop on campus. The coffee shop will be ready for business mid January or early February.

Those who visit will find that coffee is not the only thing being served. Different breads and a variety of teas will also be available.

Candlelight Vigil Held



photo by Jenny Palecek

Senior Bill Bell shares his story at the Covenant House vigil held for homeless children.

by Peggy McLeish

A candlelight vigil was held on Thursday, December 4th in the college chapel for homeless children. The vigil was organized by Brother Tim Hemm, Janet Gick, and Senior Peggy McLeish in connection with an international organization called Covenant House. The Rensselaer vigil was part of a larger nationwide vigil held simultaneously in twelve cities.

Covenant House is an organization that provides shelter, aid, and other services to homeless youth. Covenant House shelters have been established in many major cities in the United States and in Latin and South America. Many services are provided by the organization, including training for jobs and for child rearing.

The candle light vigil

held in the chapel was well attended by area individuals and representatives of local service organizations. Part of the vigil was to recognize and form a "helping chain" of these local agencies and organizations that provide assistance in many forms to the youth of the surrounding communities. The vigil held in Rensselaer was unique because there is no Covenant House established in the state of Indiana.

Attendance and help by many individuals made the vigil a success. Prominent figures who attended the vigil included Susan Smith, Mayor of Rensselaer and Katie Wolfe, the local State Senatorial representative. Many students volunteered their time to help organize, set up and run the vigil. Senior Jeff Kirch did much of the preparing of the Chapel and other services for the vigil.

Bell explained that even though this is a professional place of business, the environment will be relaxing and artistic. "What I would like is for students to donate paintings and sculptures," Bell stated. Those who do donate will be recognized on the walls of the shop.

Students who are interested in working at the shop will do so on a volunteer basis but must go through an interview process first. All of the profits will go right back into the shop. "We can't afford to pay people, but we can afford to give them free coffee. Anytime they (volunteers) go down there, they can get free coffee," Bell explained.

Bell seems to look forward to opening. "I want people to know this is going to be a nice place. We have a lot of good, professional people on our side so this is not going to be a fly by night thing," Bell explained.

Career Center News

The Career Center is preparing for the second annual CareerFest that will be held in February on campus. Resumes must be submitted early for senior participation.

Walk In Hours:
Monday 3:30 - 4:30
Tuesday 9:00 - 10:00
Wednesday 12:00 - 1:00

Open Late Tuesdays
4:30 - 7:00

CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST HELD

by Ashley Pierce

On Wednesday, December 10, the Senior Champagne Breakfast was held at 10:00 pm in the Halleck Center Cafeteria.

The event was sponsored by the Senior Class, Student Affairs and Dining Services and was hosted by Linda Bevec of the Career Center. "The Champagne Breakfast has been a Saint Joe tradition for a long time," commented Bevec. The event is set up by approximately 20-30 faculty and staff members, who then serve the students.

"We will be serving approximately 170 seniors," stated Bevec. This includes decorating, serving plates, pouring champagne and orange juice, clearing tables, and returning the cafeteria to its normal setup. The faculty and staff involved put a lot of time and effort into this event. They arrive at approximately 8:00 pm to begin setting up, and do not leave until everything is cleaned and cleared away. "It's work, but it is a lot of fun and is one way

for the faculty and staff to honor our graduating seniors," Bevec noted.

The breakfast will begin with a general welcome from Bevec. Senior class president, Mary Zurek will give a brief speech followed by a prayer led by Father Tim McFarland. The seniors will then be served their breakfast, which includes omelettes, hashbrowns, champagne and orange juice. Core XI will be open after the breakfast.

Seniors attending the breakfast will also receive a gift. Typically, the gift is left on the placemats, but this year's gift is on order. Students will get a voucher, which can be turned in to the Career Center after December 15 for a pen. "The pen is a gift for all seniors attending the Senior Champagne Breakfast. It is a maroon executive baron pen with a gold engraved teamwork logo and the Career Center name and phone number," commented Bevec.

Habitat for Humanity Travels to Cincinnati

by Julia Garcia

On Friday, November 21, ten members of Habitat for Humanity, along with Professor Fred Berger and his son, travelled to Xavier University in Cincinnati. The trip, which had been planned weeks beforehand, allowed the Saint Joseph's College chapter of Habitat for Humanity to help the Xavier University chapter in coming closer to completing the home it was building for a needy family in the commu-

nity.

The group was greeted by students from Xavier University's Habitat for Humanity chapter. Because the campus was celebrating its Homecoming, students had the opportunity to attend a stand-up comedy show on Friday. On Saturday, the group arrived at the work site early in the morning and worked until late in the afternoon. Some of the jobs included putting up siding, fitting windows, and building

shelves. The group also had the chance to meet the family they were helping.

"I see this year's group as more productive and more active...instead of waiting for the opportunity to help others to come to us, we are out seeking it," stated Senior Megan Kolaczyk, Vice-President of the Chapter.

Currently, Habitat for Humanity is planning its Spring Break trip to Mobile, Alabama.

Giasson Works With Faculty to Meet Special Challenges

by Heather Hagan

For most college students, the first semester of their freshman year can be a difficult period of transition. Imagine then, how much more overwhelming this experience would be for a student who not only had graduated from high school 19 years ago, but also must deal with a disability which confines him to a wheelchair.

Mark Giasson, a member of the class of 2001, has had to face this challenge. An automobile accident in 1991 left Giasson a paraplegic. Prior to his accident, he had worked as a manager on a fruit farm in Michigan where he lived with his wife and their nine children.

Giasson and his family moved to nearby Monon in 1993, where he was involved for a time with vocational rehabilitation services. This year, at the age of 37, Giasson enrolled as a member of the SJC freshman class.

The decision to pursue a college education was one that Giasson had considered for many years prior to enrolling.

"It has taken me this long to find something I'd be interested in," Giasson explained. "Because I was used to working with my hands, I had never considered anything besides manual labor."

In choosing SJC, Giasson claims that, in spite of his disability, he never even considered the accessibility of facilities as a factor in his decision. However, as many of the buildings on campus are older, some minor changes have had to be made specifically to accommodate Giasson.

For example, a ramp was added to the back of the Halleck Center, and the chains on the service elevators were extended so that they would be within his reach. However, some challenges still remain.

"The biggest obstacle that I face on a daily basis is the doors," Giasson said. "Also, in the classrooms, everyone has a desk except for me. Then again, I've never asked for one."

In addition to the modifications which were made to the facilities, Giasson has found that faculty members

have also been willing to accommodate his needs in the classroom.

"Every staff member that is in a building that I cannot get to has been able to come to me. They have all been more than willing to meet my special needs," he said.

Giasson expects many positive aspects to come out of his college experience. He is majoring in Human Services and plans to get involved in Christian family counseling in order to help others. According to Giasson, his own family has been very supportive of his decision to pursue a college education.

"My kids were thrilled that Dad was finally going to get out of the house," he said.

Giasson feels that another rewarding aspect which will come out of his experience at SJC is the path that it will pave for other students with disabilities.

"I think that this will open avenues for [disabled students] who, if they came here to look, would not consider SJC because of accessibility," Giasson said. "I would like to be a pioneer for the handicapped in this school."

Outta Site

by Heidi Jugovic

Recommended Site: <http://espn.sportszone.com/>

The site I recommend in this issue is the ESPN Sportszone page.

Pumas love their sports, and this site is a great starting point for information on almost any sport. Sportszone provides articles and columns on the NFL, NBA, NHL, col-

lege football, men's and women's college basketball, baseball, soccer, auto racing, golf, tennis and many other sports.

Just like the beloved cable program, this site has style and substance. Sportszone is updated frequently and provides news, scores, statistics, rankings, information on injuries, and standings.

Psychology Professor Greg Diamond to Leave SJC

by Lisa Phillips

Greg Diamond, of the Psychology department, will be leaving Saint Joe after this semester. "I've enjoyed teaching here very much, and were circumstances different, I could have happily spent the rest of my working life here," Diamond stated.

The Psychology department was originally supposed to consist of three people. Last year, Diamond "chaired two national search committees" to find two more teachers to fill the vacancies.

After having chosen Chau Wong and Mark Seely, Diamond "was informed that, due to the budget crisis, one position in Psychology would have to be frozen, meaning that we would only be able to offer a job to one person," Diamond explained.

As some might be aware, Diamond's wife teaches at the University of Pittsburgh and was hoping to obtain a position closer to her husband. However, this has proven to be unlikely.

Because of this situation, Diamond said, "It would just be a matter of time (one or two more years) before I would leave to be nearer to her." He decided, with the consent of campus administration, to teach at Saint Joe for one more semester and

then leave. This way, Seely and Wong would each have positions in Saint Joe's Psychology department.

Diamond is not certain what he will be doing in January, but he hopes to "remain in academia." He also hopes to find a school like Saint Joe, although considerably nearer to his home.

Dr. Chattin, Vice President for Academic Affairs, has been impressed by Diamond's performance in the past year.

"Although he has only been with us for a short period of time, I believe the psychology students at Saint Joe have really benefited from having Dr. Diamond as a professor. He will be missed."

Sophomore Theresa Richer enjoyed having Dr. Diamond as a professor. "I think Doc Diamond is an excellent teacher. His teaching style was a little different from anything I'd ever experienced before, but I feel like I learned a lot in his classes. I will be sorry to see him leave SJC."

"I'd love to give a Core lecture every once in a while if my schedule permitted," Diamond joked. "But, this runs into the same old problem of the college having enough money to do what it would like, such as flying me out and building a four-star hotel in which to house me."

One Acts Integrate the Talents of Many Students

by Lisa Phillips

The Columbian Players are trying something new for their next performance: "An Evening with the Columbian Players" on January 30, 31 and February 1. Throughout the weekend, three one-act plays will be performed, each written, directed and starring students.

The playwrights, Seniors Jeremy White and DeAnn Hazzard and Sophomore Mike Nichols were in a playwriting class which Professor Garrity taught last semester. Garrity took the best one-act play from each student and submitted them to the Columbian Players who then chose three to perform. "Our pieces are no longer

words on a page, but are now becoming actual living, evolving, dramatic experiences," says White. "This is both a thrill and an honor for the playwrights."

The students directing the plays, Seniors Andy Hicks and Matt Owens and Junior Kathy Jarowicz, are stepping up to the challenge of bringing words to life with a flair.

"Andy is a man of vision and a perfectionist," says Junior Shawn Roser, who has the part of Keith in White's untitled play. "I think that he'll do a great job, and I'm glad he's directing."

Sophomore Amanda Munson, who plays the part of Ms. Timmers in Nichols' "Tripping Over Nothing,"

says that Owens "is doing an excellent job."

"I am very happy that we have, with Professor Rahe's guidance, been able to try some experiments with the Columbian Players and their productions," says Owens.

"I think it is a great idea and a great experience for all who participate," says Jarowicz. "I hope to do this again in the future and maybe get even more directors and actors involved."

Senior Jenny Palecek, who plays the part of Joan in "Tripping Over Nothing," remarked, "I am really excited because of the new talent who will be performing onstage for the first time, as well as the new directors."

SJC Students Serve the Community in Student Volunteer Corps' 1997 Rake and Run

by Rachel Barlage

Student Volunteer Corps' annual Rake and Run was held from Tuesday, November 18 through Thursday, November 20. The event was also scheduled for Monday, but it was cancelled due to snow.

During Rake and Run, Saint Jce students volunteer to rake the yards of several elderly residents of Rensselaer who are unable to do the work themselves.

The event is always one of the most popular projects sponsored by Student Volunteer Corps because students enjoy spending time outside with their friends. This year, the weather was warmer than it has been in years.

Senior Jeff Weir, who participated in Rake and Run for the first time this year, commented, "You're able to have a fun time while helping others."

In all, nine yards were raked by sixteen students: Jenny Palecek, Sheridan Harvey, Rachel Barlage, John McNeil, Matt Blocher, Duane Marks, Brad Gellert, Jeff Weir, D Adams, Bill Bell, Christine Gee, Mindy Kever, Erin Stachnik, Ryan McLaughlin, Jill Peterson,

and Nicole Yerkes.

Freshman Sheridan Harvey said, "I thought Rake and Run was cool because it gave us a chance to get away from school and have some fun with our friends."

D Adams, a senior and veteran leaf-raker, added, "Jumping in the leaves was the best!"

Several students made a gigantic pile of leaves in one

"I thought Rake and Run was cool because it gave us a chance to get away from school and have fun with our friends."

--Sheridan Harvey, Freshman

of the largest yards and then dove in. There were several minor leaf wars, but no casualties.

Senior Brad Gellert teased, "The Rake and Run was fun except for the volunteer leaders beating us with their rakes if we didn't work fast enough."

Freshman Christine Gee said, "It was neat to see that the older people were really pleased that we came." The homeowners were, as always, very grateful for the



photo by Jenny Palecek

SVC President Rachel Barlage and Sheridan Harvey have fun bagging leaves during Rake and Run.

help, and Mrs. Dunn even provided the volunteers with candy and popcorn.

Steve Santo donated hot chocolate to warm up the volunteers. SVC President Rachel Barlage said, "This was the most successful Rake and Run since I have been involved in SVC leadership. The volunteers were enthusiastic, and everyone had a great time."

CHRISTMAS CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: Eight reindeer, slightly used. All new harnesses and jingle bells. Will accept best offer. For more information, call ext. 8243.

Wanted: A lovely snowlady for a lonely snowman. Must have good build, but shouldn't be too hot! Call ext. 5523.

Ask Arnie

Dear Arnie,

I have been friends with this guy for 5 years. We went out once, but nothing ever happened with our relationship. Now he has a new girlfriend, and I still have feelings for him. I never expressed my feelings for him because I didn't want to ruin our relationship.

The thing is, I am very jealous of his new girlfriend and don't know what to do about it. Last week he told me he still has feelings for me. How do I react to this? Do I tell him my feelings?

Sincerely,

Jealous Friend

Dear Jealous Friend,

You need to evaluate your friendship with this guy. Are you sure you really like him? Or are you experiencing these feelings just because he has a new girlfriend?

Since you have been friends for so long, I am sure that you know each other pretty well. Do you think he would be able to break up with his current girlfriend to be with you?

Be honest with him. If he is your best friend, he should be able to listen to your feelings and understand. Let him know how you feel about him. This will require great strength. You may not get the reaction you expected, but if you don't say anything you may regret it forever.

-Arnie

Send letters to Ask Arnie at Post Office Box 2225 or put them in The Observer box in the Core building.



photo by Rachel Barlage

Erin Stachnik, Christine Gee, John McNeil, Brad Gellert, Sheridan Harvey, Mindy Kever, Matt Blocher, Bill Bell, D Adams, Jeff Weir, and Ryan McLaughlin are proud of their mountain of leaves.

A Few of my Favorite Things... Christmas Edition

"Sharing Christmas with my boyfriend."

--Michelle Horst
Freshman

"Waking up really early in the morning to eat elephant ears."

--Patrick Guyette
Junior

"My favorite thing about Christmas is being with my family for Christmas Eve dinner."

--Jane Grupo
Junior

"My favorite thing about Christmas is watching my friends and family open their presents. I also love to watch the snow fall and eat all the great holiday food."

--Rebecca Oliver
Freshman

"[I enjoy] spending time with

my friends and family over the holidays since it is one of the only opportunities that I am home for a long period of time during the school year.

--Amy Winkel
Sophomore

"My favorite thing about Christmas is the total atmosphere that is going on in which everything twinkles and shines. I also love how the stores are decorated and children are believing in Santa."

--Liza Storey
Freshman

"I love listening to my favorite Christmas CDs, especially Kenny G, Yanni, and Celine Dion's Christmas! Music really brings out the holiday spirit."

--Nicole Yerkes
Senior

Cross Country Team Runs into the End of the Season

by Mindy Kever

The cross country team finished their season on Saturday, November 8th at the NCAA Great Lakes Regionals in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The women, who were unranked in the NCAA polls, finished sixteenth and the men, also unranked, also did not place, due to an incomplete team.

Sophomore Joe Derybowski felt that the season was a building block.

"It was a good building year, and I think the team re-

alizes we have the potential to be competitive next year if we can finally get it together as a team.

Junior captain, Jamie Riberto agreed with Derybowski.

"I think the season did not go as well as we had hoped, but it was a learning experience, and we can benefit from it. Next year, we can achieve our goals because we have learned how to bond as a team and how to run the way we are all capable" Riberto said.

The men's cross country team experienced some drawbacks this year. There were two runners out for most of the season due to injuries, and two other men runners were battling illness throughout the season. Despite these injuries, there were also some very strong runners, such as Junior Damon Dexter, who won the Benedictine Invitational. The team is a young team, having only one senior, and looks forward to improving its performance next year.

Sophomore Clark

Teuscher feels that the team can really do well next year.

"Coach Massoels has stated that he expects us to contend for a conference title next season, and if everyone stays committed, we definitely have a good chance," Teuscher stated.

The women's cross country team was young this year, with three of its top runners being freshmen. Next year, both teams are looking to improve and build on the positive aspects of this season.

On Track... Football Team Ends the Season in Reflection

by Jamie Riberto

The football finished their season with a 5-6 record. The Pumas lost their last game of the season to Butler 20-13.

Sophomore Dave Shabazz feels the team could have beaten Butler, but the team was not prepared mentally.

"I felt like we had the opportunity to win, but we did not come together mentally. We were well prepared physically. If we want to win a championship, we have to be prepared mentally every minute of the game," he explained. "We are better than Butler and we could have beaten them. Everyone gave their best, but winners give more than their best, they give everything they have," he added.

The team ended the season being ranked ninth in rushing offense and eighteenth in scoring offense.

Craig Redman felt the season had its good and bad times.

"This season was a time of joy and frowns, but a time that everyone will remember," he stated.

The freshman had a big impact on the team this year. Assistant Coach Vicelli feels that the team has some good young players.

"Your freshmen eventually become your leaders. Joe Koczan, Boe Washington, Montell Pace, Keenan Massey and Aaron Irwin really came out and worked hard and did a nice job."

Next year's goals for the Pumas include getting back on top, going undefeated and striving for the playoffs.

Women's Soccer Team Finishes the Season With a Positive Attitude and Many Honors

by Jamie Riberto

The women's soccer team concluded their season with a record of 16-5-2. They won the Great Lakes Valley Conference and then went on to play Truman State in the regional game on Saturday, November 8 and lost 1-0.

Senior Jessica Beckemeier felt that the game was unfortunate.

"We were favored to win, but somehow we were supposed to lose that game. There were ten minutes left in the game and a blizzard started up with a tremendous wind in our faces and we

could not even kick the ball in the air without it being redirected into our defensive end," she explained. "They [Truman State] ended up scoring in that time and it was very unfortunate," she continued.

The women's team struggled at the beginning of the season, losing their first two games. As the season went on, the team came together and played much better.

Sophomore Jill Hrobsky felt as if the team had something to prove.

"Many people thought that

last year was a fluke and this team could not recover from losing ten people including eight seniors and two All Americans," she explained. "We not only proved them wrong, but we accomplished more than some of the returning players thought we could do. Many college soccer players never win a conference championship, play in the NCAA tournament or make it to the final four. Although we did not make it back to the Final Four, I think we, as a team, have a lot to be proud of," she added.

"I think in the eyes of outside observers we achieved more than expected. We lost ten out of eighteen players, and we ended up being much better than anyone thought or expected us to be."

There were many players who received honors. Senior Mary Zurek, Sophomore Mary Reid, Sophomore Lori McKinney, and Beckemeier were named first team All-Great Lakes Valley Conference and first team All-Central All-Region. Coach Minelli was named Great Lake Valley Conference Coach of the Year.

We not only proved them wrong, but we accomplished more than some of the returning players thought we could do.

Congratulations to the Women's Soccer Team and to the Women's Tennis Team on winning Conference.

Congratulations to all fall sports teams on well-played seasons!

Head Coach Minelli felt the same way about the team's overall success.

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Men's Basketball Team Successful on the Road

by Kevin Collins

The Saint Joseph's men's basketball team has gotten their 1997-98 season off to a very good start. The Pumas are coming off of a disappointing 1996-97 season in which they recorded only 4 victories. They currently have a 3-1 record this season. The Pumas are coached by fifth year head coach Bill Bland, long time assistant Jerry Hoover, and first year assistant coach Todd Foster. Foster is a graduate of Purdue University and was hired into the coaching position shortly before the season.

The Pumas lost only two seniors to graduation last season, Chad Pulver and Ryan Davis, leaving them with several returning players for the 97-98 team. The nine returning Pumas include seniors Franklin "Goldie" Ashford, Chad Patterson, and Andrew

Moore, junior "AJ" Aukjan Van Belkum, and sophomores Mike Huseman, Matt Metzger, Greg Taylor, Jason Hallenbeck, and Mick Mancuso. The Pumas also have several new faces to compliment the returnees of last year's squad. These new Pumas are Sophomore Mike Hicks, Junior Tyrone Parks and Freshmen Andy Anasinski, Brandon Yates, and Rory Johnson. These players provide the Pumas with a great deal of individual talent which should lead the team to a winning season.

The Pumas have achieved their 3-1 record mainly playing on the road, but they opened their season in the Richard F. Sharf Alumni Fieldhouse. The Pumas won over Puerto Rico-Mayaguez 85-57. Patterson led the Pumas in scoring and

rebounding as he had 29 points and pulled down 13 boards. Parks chipped in 15 points while Moore also had 10. Johnson also gathered up 13 rebounds for Saint Joseph's.

With their first win under their belts, it was time to begin the road tour. The Pumas traveled East to participate in the Kiwanis Classic Tournament on November 21st and 22nd. The tournament was held on the campus of Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio.

In the first round of the tournament, the Pumas picked up their second win of the year by defeating Calvin College. Hicks stepped it up against Calvin as he led the Pumas in scoring with 25 points. Patterson lead the team in rebounding with 8.

The host school, Heidel-

berg College, became the Pumas next opponent. Saint Joseph's took care of business and beat Heidelberg 82-73. Once again, Chad Patterson lead the Pumas in scoring with 19 points while Johnson collected a team high 6 rebounds. This win made the Pumas winners of the tournament. Hicks was selected for the All-Tournament Team and Patterson was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

The Pumas then traveled to Olivet Nazarene. This was the Pumas first loss of the season. The Pumas lost by the score of 88-75, despite having three players scoring in double figures.

Hicks had 19 points while Parks scored 16 and Moore chipped in 14. The Pumas have to rebound from their loss and get back on the winning court.

Women's Basketball off to a Good Start

by Eric Schneider

The Saint Joseph College women's basketball team is off to a positive start this season with a 3-2 record so far in the early campaign.

The team, led by head coach Lynn Plett, went 1-1 on their travels to Hillside and St. Francis. The Pumas lost to Hillside 91-68 on November 24th. The Pumas were led by Sophomore Tamara Bumpers game high of 20 points and Senior Tammie Williams added 16. The next day the Pumas beat St. Francis 93-71 as Senior Jessika Henry and Junior Shanna Miller each had 15 points.

The Lady Pumas most recently lost to the strong team of Oakland University. They were led by Sophomore Angie Hupfer's team high 17 points and 10 rebounds. Williams added 14 while Henry chipped in 13.

The team has a tough schedule ahead of them, with a rematch against Oakland on the 13th of December and the IUPUI-Indianapolis Tournament the following weekend of December 20th.

★★★ Honorable Mention ★★★

With the end of the semester and the closing of several fall sports seasons, we would like the following people to be recognized for their honors.

- **Darlis Barker**- sophomore- football- *Most Improved Player of the Season*
- **Jessica Beckemeier**- senior- soccer- *First Team All GLVC, First Team All Central All Region*
- **Chuck Carmody**- senior - soccer- *GLVC Player of the Week*
- **Marty Corley**- senior- football- *Rudy Volz Memorial Award*
- **Bill Gill**- senior - soccer- *1997 National Soccer Coaches Association Central Region First Team*
- **Manda Hollis**- senior- tennis- *All GLVC Women's Tennis Team*
- **Erich Hitzeman**- sophomore- football- *Most Valuable Player Special Team*
- **Virgal Johnson**- freshman- football- *Most Dedicated Player of the Season*
- **J.B. Lind**- senior- football- *Leadership Award, named to play in Sno-Bowl All-Star Game*
- **Lori McKinney**- sophomore- soccer- *First Team All GLVC, First Team All Central All Region*
- **Gina Medellin**- senior- cross country- *All Academic Conference*
- **Head Coach Mike Minelli**- women's soccer- *GLVC Coach of the Year*
- **Scott Moore**- senior- football- *Most Valuable Player (Offense)*
- **Brian Outlaw**- senior- football- *Pre-Season All American*
- **Mary Reid**- sophomore- soccer- *GLVC Player of the Week (twice), GLVC Co-Player of the Week, First Team All GLVC, First Team All Central All Region*
- **Jennifer Silva**- senior- tennis- *All GLVC Women's Tennis Team*
- **Larry Smith**- junior- football- *Pre-Season All American*
- **Mike Stewart**- junior- football- *Pre-Season All American*
- **Jerry Taylor**- junior- football- *Most Valuable Player (Defense)*
- **Sarah Taylor**- sophomore- volleyball- *Player of the Week*
- **Mary Zurek**- senior- soccer- *GLVC Co-Player of the Week, First Team All GLVC, First Team All Central All Region*
- **IM Football Champions**- Noll Style (men), Six-Pack (women)

★★★★★
Merry
Christmas to
all, and best of
luck to all
sports in the
New Year!
★★★★★

A Real Christmas

by Charles Martin

The following is my story, or at least an insignificant part of it. I should first introduce myself: my name is Henry Kell. Never heard of me? Don't suppose you have. All I'll tell you is that I'm 67 years old, and feeling every year. Not that you care or anything, just thought you might like to know who is going to be ranting to you.

I have no particular reason for writing this; maybe to prove a point or a moral. Or maybe that there is a holiday coming up. I don't even know why. Normally I don't tell strangers about my personal life, being the unfulfilled one that it is. Well have a seat my friend, and learn a thing or two from a wise old man.

The typical place to start would be where and when I was born. I don't want to kill you with boredom, so I'll be brief. I was born Henry Allen Kell on November 12, 1930 in the wonderful state of Illinois. I came from a very large family. No, not a couple of brothers and sisters, but 11 in all. You bet that's a lot, and my parents deserve a lot of credit in our upbringing. I

was taught to respect everything that I had, and never turn down a free meal. All the children were disciplined to be well-mannered and courteous.

Anyway, times were hard for my parents then, especially my father. During the thirties he worked in a machine shop making automobile parts for various companies. My mother, of course, didn't have any income for herself, and had to stay home with the children and look after them. Every night my father would come home and we would all gather around the table to eat supper. We never ate like kings, but we got by.

In the fall of '37 my father was fired from his job. They said that he wasn't "performing his required tasks properly." I know they lied, my father was the hardest working man I knew.

After losing his job, he looked for other things that he could do, but no one was hiring. It looked like we had no choice but to move on elsewhere. Where we were going to move was the real

question. After some debate it turned out that we had some relatives in southern Kansas that would lend our family a needed hand. So in August of '39 we moved out west.

The first year we struggled to make ends meet. The town of Parsons was a rural farming town, and my father had no experience with farming. I didn't know the relatives we were staying with real well at that time, but I still liked them. They gave us new clothes and shoes, something we were not used to having. One of the greatest times in my life came when I had my first "real" Christmas.

I can honestly say that I never had a truly wonderful Christmas until we moved in with my relatives. I remember Christmas Eve, and all the anticipation that was building up in all of my brothers and sisters. It was like we were all balloons ready to burst from the suspense. Finally the day arrived and we all gathered around the small, but beautiful, Christmas tree. As we looked around, we saw all kinds of brightly colored

presents and gifts. Not knowing what to expect, I hesitantly ripped open my gift. To my surprise, I got a red firetruck. Yes, I know it isn't much now, but that toy meant everything to me.

As all good things come to an end, so did my short stay in Parsons, Kansas. You see, after my mother died in '41 of a heart attack, the world that I knew changed. My father, unable to cope with my mother's death, fled from Parsons, leaving in the dead of night. To this day I still don't know what ever happened to him, or even why he never tried to contact us again.

Without any real parents to look after us, all 11 brothers and sisters, were sent to a foster home. I guess that's where I spent most of my adolescent years, but my mind is going in my old age. We all went to school, but I never went to college. I ended up working in a factory just like my father. Time passed, and the remnants of

our family drifted apart. I was now only dependent on myself, and out in the real world.

I ended up moving from place to place working at many different jobs. I just couldn't seem to find myself. After a while I settled down in a small town outside of South Bend, Indiana. That is where I live to this day. Every year around this time I start to think about a lot of different things. I think about my parents, my brothers and sisters, and what I'm going to do next. I look back at my childhood and think that even though times were tough, I had at least my family to be thankful for. Now I can't even say that much.

Well, that's pretty much it. I guess I should thank you for sitting through this old man's story. The moral? Well, you can figure that out for yourself, but I'll leave you with a quote. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said "when it is dark enough, you can see the stars." I hope that when you feel down or discouraged this Christmas season, to turn to your families and friends. That's what they are there for. Happy holidays, boys and girls.

A Student's Prayer

by Sarah Martin

Dear God, please help me, for I'm truly scared. I have a big test and I'm far from prepared. Tomorrow's my final. It's a test that I dread. At this point I'm thinking I'd rather be dead. I spent my semester with parties and beer, with no thought of tomorrow, no worries, not a fear.

Now I'm up late studying with my caffeine high, wishing I hadn't let time pass me by. My books all lay open: my attempt to gain knowledge. I'm praying I'll pass so I'll get out of college. My eyes have grown blurry. I am getting confused. But I wasted my time now

I'm paying my dues. Now I will suffer. My head's hung in despair. I wish I had not waited until now to care. Dear God, I am praying, that with all Your great wisdom, You'll answer my prayer by just giving me some. Amen.

MOVIES

Southlake Mall in Merrillville

Alien Resurrection - 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00
Mortal Kombat Annihilation - 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:20, 6:40, 7:45, 8:45, 9:55
Mr. Bean - 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:50

Showplace 16 in Schererville

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil - 4:00, 7:10, 10:15
Anastasia - 4:10, 4:50, 6:30, 7:00, 8:40, 9:10
Flubber - 4:20, 5:00, 6:40, 7:20, 9:00, 9:30
The Rainmaker - 4:30, 5:10, 7:30, 8:20, 10:20
The Jackal - 5:20, 8:00, 10:30